

Minutes of Committee Meeting of Friends of Brockwell Park, April 18th 2016. Norwood Lodge, 7.30pm

Present: Peter Bradley, Chair (PB); Adam Steinhouse, Vice-Chair (AS); Dean Littler, Treasurer (DL); Noshir Patel, Secretary (NP); Laura Morland, Parks Liaison (LM); Edward Lavender, (EL)

Attending: Web Team: Madeleine Boomgaarten (MB) and Gal Sapir (GS).

Apologies: Antonia Gross, Membership Secretary (AG); Alice Salisbury (AS)

Minutes of March 21 2016: corrections

1. Fixed Business, 1a: NP is a member of the Website Sub-Committee.
2. The proposed new Transmission Mast is to be sited at 35 Trinity Rise, not Brockwell Park Gardens.

With the above corrections noted, the Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

Matters arising:

1. NP has booked Brockwell Hall from 10am to 2pm for the Away Day, May 15.
2. The Agenda for the Away Day was revisited: now to comprise:
 - a). Vision—to be introduced by AS.
 - b). Spending priorities.
 - c). Activities for the coming year.
 - d). Membership and Committee expansion—to be introduced by AG.
 - e). Problems and FOBP Policy in relation to Lambeth Parks Events.

It was decided issues related to expenditure and funding requests can be better addressed as specific agenda items quarterly in Committee. DL to suggest dates.

3. AS reported that the application for the Transmission Mast at 35 Trinity Rise has been refused by Lambeth Planning.

Fixed business for discussion: website design

- MB and GS presented, on computer screen, various options for both web pages and text, which were well received. There was considerable discussion: enthusiasm for examples of uncluttered screens showing the beauty of the Park; need to state on home page that FOBP is not a part of Lambeth Council, but an independent voluntary body; the need to allow immediate and uncomplicated access to the Events page; a page containing both invitations to be on email list alone and to join as a paid-up member; with application form for the latter to be accessed 'discretely' by separate button; sections on volunteering, trees, benches, park history also needed.

Action: MB and GS will work up a website, including the recommendations from the above discussion.

- MB suggested the rental of an extra .com web domain, at the annual cost of £5.99.
Action: this was agreed by the Committee.

Reports:

Chair

- PB will attend the upcoming Lambeth Local History Forum Meeting.

- Caroline Funnell's request for FOBP support in her application to Lambeth Parks for permission to put on her 'Jungle Book' event in the Walled Garden. **Action:** the Committee voted in favour; NP will so write.
- The new Mayor to be invited to the Tree Celebration on Sunday June 5. **Action:** PB will send letter.
- Posters for the Autumn Walk and the Walled Garden tours: **Action:** PB will contact AS.
- Request by Bruno Piave to hold a 'Womanhood' exhibition in the 'Woodhenge' circle of trees. **Action:** Committee required more detail.
- PB reported on his Spring Walk on April 17, which was greatly appreciated by participants.
- The anticipated meeting of PB with Lambeth Park Events representative, at the time of their inspection failed, due to PB being given only 1 hour's notice of its timing. The Committee echoed PB's disappointment over this.
- PB announced the welcome news that Lambeth Archives is to re-open.

Vice-Chair

- In Chair's absence, a request for completion of a Parks Survey arrived from HLF. It seemed to be orientated towards financial governance, and not within the province of FOBP. **Action:** the Committee decided to ignore the request.
- In Chair's absence, En Root requested permission to set up commercial food stall at the Car Boot. **Action:** rejection by the Committee.
- In Chair's absence, request received for sponsorship of Dr Barnardo's proposed Charity Run. No details of what the sponsorship would entail given. Committee not willing to become involved in an open-ended responsibility in this. **Action:** Committee will not sponsor, but AS will refer Dr Barnardo's to Lambeth Parks Events Team.
- Question of who will be available to represent FOBP at the forthcoming BPCP AGM on 24 April. **Action:** PB, NP, EL confirmed; PB will call AG and MB.

Secretary

Report of a raucous and misbehaving (throwing bowls around on the green) party on the Bowling Green on April 17. No indication of who authorised it, nor of who was in charge. Attempts to contact Heather Bouchier-Hayes (Chair of Bowling Club) not successful so far. **Action:** NP will try to contact HBH to ascertain the facts.

Treasurer

- DL has written history of FOBP; asked for further input. **Action:** DL will circulate Committee Members, and eventually, will post on the website.
- DL noted the Finsbury Park community's protest over planned events which they felt were inappropriate. There may be lessons which we can learn from this ongoing story. **Action:** DL will monitor.
- Accounts: main account £27,609.18; second account £12,883.38. DL observed that about £15,000 is spoken for.

Park Liaison

- Trees: LM has requested a meeting in May with Clarence Riley, Park Manager.

- Benches: no movement. The benches and bases are all paid up by the sponsors, but there is no information on whether or not the purchase order for the benches and the commissioning order for the base construction have been implemented. Clarence Riley has failed to respond to communications by LM. **Action:** NP will raise the issue at Park Management meeting, April 20.
- All the trial mailings seem to be arriving safely at Norwood Lodge.
- Lucio, at the Brockwell Park Café, has been very ill. General concern was expressed by Committee. **Action:** PB will send a card on behalf of Committee.
- Stephen Lawlor of Kennington Park Flower Garden, who is in receipt of Heritage Lottery funding, wants to link up with Brockwell Park. **Action:** AG to contact him.
- The bird statue planned for the Walled Garden may or may not need planning permission. **Action:** LM will discuss with Clarence Riley.

AOB

Brockwell Park Watch

- EL has written to FOUND Music Festival about the noise level arrangements at their June music festival in Brockwell Park. Replies so far evasive, in that the permissible sound levels have not yet been finalised with the Events Team. **Action:** EL will pursue this to the point where specifics are available.
- EL photographed the damage done to the meadow by Zippo's Funfair, which decamped on April 13. EL emailed the photos to Lambeth Parks Events, and said that each event should be made to restore, at the time of decamping, damage done by it, in order to prevent cumulative degradation of the Park. No reply. **Action:** EL will pursue this matter. EL plans to photograph residual damage done by all events this year and send them to Lambeth Parks Events. In this way a record can be kept in case there is any cumulative damage.
- EL sent Clarence Riley, Parks Manager, photos of the carve-up of many of the park verges created by service vehicles, asking him to exert pressure on these vehicle drivers, now that they are employed directly by the Council. This has been an ongoing problem, drawn to the attention of the Brockwell Park Manager frequently in the past, to no avail. **Action:** EL will pursue this matter.

Meeting closed 9.55pm

DATE OF NEXT TWO MEETINGS:

Away Day: Sunday May 15, 10am-2pm, Brockwell Hall

Committee: Monday May 16, 7.30pm, Brockwell Lodge